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FREE THOUGHTS ON THE PRESENT TIMES AND MEASURES.

LETTER IV.

TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

MY COUNTRYMEN,

IN popular, mixt, and free constitutions, the fluctuation of power ought to be carefully marked, and diligently attended to, lest the different branches arrogate to themselves rights and privileges not originally inherent in them. To resolve such constitutions to their first principles is the best criterion to judge of their purity. If they will not stand this test we may safely pronounce them defective; and then our next enquiry should be, where has the error begun, or the violation originated? When this point is gained, like a skilful physician, who reckons a competent knowledge of the distemper of his patient half way towards his cure, we ought to exert ourselves to combat the evil in its origin, and eradicate it out of the political body. If *lenitives* should fail, we should have recourse to *corrosives*; for the political, as well as the human state, must sooner or later sustain a convulsion, if the latent, or obvious infirmities, in its frame, are not timely removed. As prudence will ever guard against the one, so it will endeavour to discover and heal the other. It is a duty of the first importance, interwoven in the *honest* man's constitution, and founded in that love for his country which, in the *generous breast*, supersedes all other considerations; it is a task *Virginius* has prescribed himself, and which he will constantly execute, let what be the consequence.

In the present alarming situation of affairs between the American colonies and Great Britain, if the public attention were not wholly absorbed in the multiplicity of so many more alarming objects, a late * proclamation would scarcely fail of attracting notice; but though it be of an inferior nature, and more capable, perhaps, of exciting our contempt than indignation, yet, my fellow citizens, I think it ought not to be suffered to pass unstigmatized. The person who manifests an intention of doing you an injury in your persons or properties is, perhaps, a degree less criminal than the real aggressor, under the strict letter of the law; but not a jot so in *foro conscientiæ*. Whoever, therefore, would dare circumscribe your privileges, or abridge those rights which the laws of God, of nature, and reason, and the liberties of the British constitution, have given you, however dignified his station, or exalted his condition, ought to be dragged out to open and public view, and held up to the indignation of an injured, incensed people. Soothed as we have been hitherto by the earl of Dunmore's vacant indifference, amidst the convulsions of this distressed country, if we did not consider him as a friend, we never imagined him an enemy. But time, the great revealer of secrets, has at last convinced us that we were sadly mistaken: His letter to the earl of Dartmouth, replete with the most injurious misrepresentations, and the most notorious falsehoods, his removal of the powder from the magazine of the country at a time that the minds of the people were alarmed with the justest apprehensions, his offers to our slaves, and the general turbulence thereby occasioned all over the colony, his late proclamation charging you, my countrymen, with disaffection *to the present form of government, and a settled design of altering it*, but, above all, his late heroic transaction in setting a trap in the magazine, with the express intention to *murder* our incautious fellow citizens, all these circumstances put together, leave no doubt, my dear countrymen, I hope, in your breasts, of the intentions and views of your governor.

A countryman put a snake, pinched with cold, and expiring with hunger, into his bosom: The snake no sooner began to feel a genial warmth, and a renovation of strength, from the fostering hand of its protector, than it displayed the native malevolence of its constitution; it bit the countryman, and if the kind protector did not expire of the wound, it was rather owing to the soundness and vigour of his constitution than to the leniency of the adder's tooth.

In whatever light I behold the late conduct of John earl of Dunmore, his disingenuity extorts my utmost contempt. As the representative of the king, *candour* and *truth*, at least, we had some reason to expect from him; but, alas! how have we been disappointed! witness the above mentioned letter to the earl of Dartmouth. As freemen, I humbly think also we were entitled to every species of freedom that a man in Great Britain claims. The British subject claims it as his undoubted right to associate with his fellow citizens in a peaceable manner, deliberate on his grievances, and he thinks it no very extraordinary piece of presumption to petition the *king* for a redress. This privilege is denied *you* by the *earl* of *Dunmore*: Your grievances *he* stiles *pretended*, and the measures you have concerted to obtain a redress are termed *unjustifiable*; consequently, my countrymen, this pageant of state, this machine of government, *thinks it incumbent on him* to inhibit you the exercise of a right that the king of Great Britain was never hardy enough to deny the British nation. If I behold *him gloriously* engaged in *clandestinely* removing the powder from the magazine in the night, how is it possible to refuse him the tribute of my applause? Aided by *your worthy compeer*, Collins (no *despicable* auxiliary) the fame of that night's transaction will certainly, if gratitude is not banished the world as well as *virtue* and *honour*, transmit your name, my lord, with undiminished lustre to future ages. How will it sound in the annals of some future historian, that on such a night *the right honourable his excellency John earl of Dunmore, lieutenant governor, and commander in chief, of Virginia, and vice admiral of the same, had gone privately in the night, and burglariously broke open the public magazine of the country, and stole thereout about twenty barrels of gunpowder, lodged therein for the use and exigence of the colony?* And lest any part of this memorable transaction be forgot, I hope the historian will not omit to mention *that captain Henry Collins, commander of one of the king's armed vessels (the terror of oyster boats and fishing canoes) in the Bay of Chesepeak, had aided and assisted, and valiantly co-operated with, your lordship, in that arduous and important exploit*; that when remonstrated with on what the Virginians thought an imprudent, improper, absurd, disingenuous step, you *honourably* pledged your word that you would return the powder, and remove every cause of discontent, and that then, almost in a breath, you basely violated your word; that you made use of such low, unmanly evasions and subterfuges, to deceive the people of Virginia, as no one, unless totally dead to every sense of shame, and every manly exertion, would have recourse to; that you have added the corruptions of the worst of hearts to the blunders of the worst of heads; that having once gone wrong, you think it your duty to persist in the road of error; that as you have done so, † recrimination you think is your best asylum; and that, to avoid the importunity of a free expostulation (too severe a trial to the self-condemned) your last retreat is the Fowey. Tracing you, my lord, through all the mazes of your iniquity, I will drop the ridicule, and seriously ask you if you can wonder that the people of this colony have withdrawn their confidence from you? Can any confidence be reposed in a murderer? I know not how your lordship could reconcile to your feelings the idea of the *secret assassin*, the *dark murderer*. But I believe there are very few who do not rank you in that class. I care not whether the incautious, but brave young fellows, who have fallen victims to your dark plans, have expired of their wounds or not; it is the intention of the agent that should regulate our judgment of any action; and here you stand self-convicted. Will you then confess that evil counsellors, and pernicious advisers, betrayed you into that diabolical project? Or that it was the machination of your own corrupt heart? Deviate, I conjure you, for once, into *candour*, and make atonement for the many injuries you have done this distressed country; drive from your presence the *reptiles* that have involved you in your present difficulties and embarrassment with a brave and free people, who, I believe, once esteemed you, and would, doubtless, continue to do so, had you continued to merit their approbation; *candidly* acknowledge your faults, and you may *yet* mitigate the resentment of the Virginians; but you can never recover their esteem.

To what fatality, my lord, can it be imputed that you, who have been hitherto considered as an inoffensive, easy, good natured man, should suddenly become black as the Ethiop, and prostitute abilities, never, indeed, designed to shine in the superior spheres of life, but which, in the calm retreats of social converse, if properly managed, might exempt you from censure? Is the paltry emolument of the government of Virginia so intrinsically considerable that you must sacrifice your honour, your virtue, your reputation, if you ever had any, to the preservation of it? Does it necessarily follow, as an indispensable conclusion, because you have accepted an office from our most *pious* and *gracious* sovereign, that you must, Camelion like, alter your colour, your complexion, your sentiments, and, in short, that you must become the very reverse of what you were at the time of your investiture? Are not the strongest marks of an overbearing influence discernable in your whole conduct? Or must we impute the complexion of your political manœuvres to a parity of sentiments in your *royal master*? These are questions, my lord, that the late tenor of your conduct would require a solution of. It rests with you to determine whether it needs any justification. I shall urge you no further at present, but leave you to brood in solitude, disappointed and baffled as I wish you, and all the enemies of America ever may be, over half formed schemes of imaginary promotion, despicable as a *Bernard* or a *Hutchinson*, and with *Wolsey*'s last consolation—"Had I as industriously served my God as I have my king, he would not now have forsaken me!"

Wonderful and unaccountable are, my dear fellow citizens, the works and dispensations of Providence! By a strange, but noble species of alchymy, we perceive the greatest possible good resulting from the greatest evil. The Boston port bill, intended by a most *abandoned* ministry to *intimidate* and *divide*, has *joined* together, in an *indissoluble union*, the whole American continent, from the Bay of Fundy to the Gulph of Florida. The *famine bills* to the northward were designed for the same purpose, as well as the *restraining bills*, to operate in these southern colonies; but instead of answering the ends of their devisers, I trust they will cover their guilty heads with ruin and confusion. Tyrants I from my soul abhor, and whether *individuals* or *aggregate bodies*, they are equally the objects of my detestation. *O! if there is a God, and that there is all nature cries aloud throughout her works, he must delight in virtue, and that which he delights in must be happy!* Your exertions for liberty, my countrymen, must be pleasing to the great CREATOR of the UNIVERSE. Your cause, O VIRGINIANS! is the cause of *virtue*, of *justice*, and of *truth*. Never then relinquish it but with your latest breath, and let it be the last glorious boast of your lives that you have transmitted the precious inheritance *inviolate* to your sons.

† *Duo modo hæc opto: Unum ut moriens populum Americanum liberum relinquam, hoc mihi majus á diis immortalibus dari nihil potest; alterum ut ita cuique eveniat, ut de republica quisque mereatur.*

VIRGINIUS.

* *Published the 28th of March last by our governor.*

† *See the governor's reasons for leaving Williamsburg to reside on board the Fowey.*

An account of the VALEDICTORY ORATION, spoken by Mr. BENJAMIN CHEW, of *Philadelphia* college, in presence of the members of the CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

THE first part of this piece contained an accurate analysis of the different branches of science necessary to a liberal education, and might be very proper to be laid before the public, but the latter part is what coincides with our present design, and gave the speaker a full opportunity of displaying the strength of his oratory. After summing up this first part with the following just remark, "that LIBERTY cannot be destroyed till true learning is extinguished, like a mighty giant, who cannot be subdued till his eyes are blinded, or eradicated, he addresses himself to the *trustees* of the college as follows:

"Since such is the influence of a good education upon the manners, the genius, the felicity, of individuals, as well as whole kingdoms, how shall we prepare ourselves to take leave of this SEAT OF LETTERS? When I recollect that *here* we have spent our youthful, and perhaps many of our happiest days, delighted and improved, when I call to mind, that while we have been led through the pleasing walks of science, you, gentlemen, the benevolent founders and patrons of this seminary, with a care even PATERNAL, have joined our worthy preceptors in watching our steps, and inciting us to glory and excellence, and when I look forward and consider that we are soon to launch out into the world upon the foundation of our own yet unripened reason, a thousand anxious thoughts croud upon my mind, too big for utterance; my bosom heaves with gratitude, which language cannot express; my tongue faulters, and refuses bidding ADIEU, or dissolving a connection so useful, so honourable to us. No, gentlemen, let it not be dissolved; we will still look up to you with FILIAL REVERENCE for council and protection in the ways of virtue; and while we walk in them we know that you will absolve us from those inferior marks of gratitude which words can but ill express.

"Happy Pennsylvania! although dark clouds lower over our heads, yet happy in this, that the first men of our country, even the descendents of our venerable founder, governors, judges, divines, and the oracles of our other liberal professions, deign to superintend the education of youth, and to train up a succession of patriots, sages, and lawgivers, to support and dignify our great AMERICAN CAUSE, when the present illustrious set of actors shall quit this earthly stage.

"As to you, young gentlemen, who are following us through those pleasing walks of science, I know that you already anticipate that part of my address which custom has appropriated to you. With such models before you, countenanced and encouraged by such dignified characters, the eyes of your country upon you, and its growing difficulties calling for growing exertions of wisdom and virtue, lose not your present golden opportunities of preparing yourselves to act a worthy part in life. Be not discouraged with the apparent difficulty of improvement. Our little experience being, however, somewhat greater than yours, entitles us to tell you that difficulties vanish as industry encreases, and the farther you travel in the paths of learning the more smooth and delightful they become.

"But the last and most severe part of my duty remains. I am now to bid *adieu* to you, my dear fellow graduates, as joint votaries of science in this place. Being now to part, our lots may be cast wide in this continent, and our pursuits may be different. The moment we step over yonder threshold we must look upon ourselves as embarking on the perilous voyage of life, in perilous times. The happy hours of youth, which we have spent here in joyous converse, opening our bosoms to each other, unsuspecting and unsuspected, will often recur to us in sweet remembrance. Yes, my companions, let them recur, and with them let all the instructive lessons we have here received recur also, and thus our constant wishes will be for the prosperity of this seminary, that it may continue to the latest ages one of the brightest luminaries of this new world, the grand nursery of TRUTH and FREEDOM, diffusing abroad whatever can elevate or enlighten mankind, and promote the best interests of this great and growing country.

"And while in this public manner we confess our obligations to this our *alma mater*, and have been dignified with her laurels, it is her right in return, nay, it is our country's right, to expect from us a conduct in life proportionably dignified; and let them expect it; for I know, my dear fellow graduates, that your hearts join me, and all the soul of the PATRIOT exults within you, while I now step forward and PLEDGE myself before this great and venerable assembly, that WE, who have this day been so highly distinguished in their sight, will make our country's good, and the support of her religion, her laws, her civil rights, the grand object of all our pursuits. We will consider LIBERTY as the choicest gift of Heaven, the unalienable right of mankind, exalting human nature, and inspiring every noble sentiment; and we will devote ourselves to her service, not with a sudden or occasional zeal, but with a pure, stedfast, and inextinguishable flame, burning still clearer and stronger through life.

Our latest prayer's the same as all the past,
And "save our country, Heaven, shall be our last!"

This performance was received with every mark of universal approbation; the speaker through the whole of it, and particularly in his pathetic conclusion, having shewn that he FELT, and was thoroughly POSSESSED with his subject.

EXTRACTS *from the* CHARGE *given to the* GRADUATES *by the* PROVOST.

YOUNG GENTLEMEN,

CUSTOM requires that I should now take leave of you with a short address for your future conduct in life, and it gives me great satisfaction that you have anticipated much of what I might say on the present occasion, having publicly avowed your principles, and pledged yourselves to your country for its service. I have therefore determined rather to refresh your memories with a few *old* lessons than to deliver much that is *new*, because I wish all *America* to know that the doctrines constantly propagated here, long before the present day, are not, however, unsuitable to it, and that these doctrines have been as follow, I can appeal to the testimony of many of the worthy sons of this seminary, who now bear a capital part in our present animated struggle for public happiness.

In the first place, then, we have always endeavoured to convince you that the relation you bear to Jesus Christ sheds the brightest lustre round the human character, and that in his school only you can compleat your wisdom. All arts, all sciences, all eloquence, all philosophy, which would lead you to neglect this divine and saving system of knowledge, are but vain and empty.

But I need not enlarge with regard to your *religious* conduct, and shall pass over to a few things respecting your conduct in civil life; and this you will remember has been our constant maxim, that the government of your country is a government of *laws*, founded on reciprocal obligations between the *governors* and *governed*, where your liberties, your lives, your property, depend not on the will of *one* man, nor of a number of men, but on the known and established rules of *justice*, even your *equals* being your judges.

On this subject we have endeavoured to lead your attention to the history of empires, that you might trace the causes of their FALL; and the virtuous sigh hath often swelled our bosoms when we have considered in how few places of the world civil liberty, the christian religion in its purity, and the principles of toleration, are to be found. Although the ways of Providence are hard to scan, yet when we have observed that these mighty blessings, refusing all fellowship with corruption, venality, and debasement of thought, have been travelling from clime to clime, and from people to people, a fond belief has seized us that future æras of renown are yet reserved for this American world in its turn. There is nothing criminal in this belief! nay, we have not only wished you to indulge it in the heart, but even to work it up into a strong and enthusiastic *persuasion*; thinking it might be to you as a portion of divide spirit, animating you in every action, and inspiring you with a noble perseverance amidst the worst that can happen. Our lessons to you have therefore run in the following strain:

Since you are thus persuaded that there is yet a great and mighty fabric to be built up in this your native land; and since, when the present set of master workmen shall be no more, it may be your lot to succeed to their patriot toils; if, therefore, you would be prepared for such a task, the greatest which a mortal can bear among his fellow creatures, we charge you, in the first place, to accustom

† Three Things only I wish: One is, That, at my Death, I may Leave the People of America free; nothing greater than this could the immortal Gods bestow upon me: the other is, That every one may have his Deserts according to his Behaviour to the Commonwealth

yourſelves to induſtry and temperance. Be aſſured, that let a man's parts be ever ſo eminent, he will find it difficult to gain confidence, or make a figure in the grand concerns of the community, if he has not firſt made himſelf reſpectable, eaſy, and independent, by integrity of conduct, and a laudable attention to his own private concerns; for he who is prodigal of his own ought not to be entruſted with what belongs to another.

The glory of every country is its liberty, its independency, and improvements in commerce, arts and religion. But, like the worm at the root of Jonah's gourd, ſloth is a ſtrong poiſoin, eating out the vitals of all. It exhauſts wealth, enervates power, famiſhes arts, deſtroys religion, and ſells liberty for a morſel of bread.

Spurn from you, then, betimes, all *ſloth*, and turn a deaf ear to the ſyren charms of pleaſure. Remember that it was not by idle hands, or ſupernumerary mouths, it was not by reclining in the lap of eaſe, or flaunting after vanities unſuitable to their condition, that your induſtrious and honourable anceſtors formed to themſelves theſe goodly habitations in an once uncultivated wilderneſs; nor is it by ſuch means that they can be tranſmitted fair and flouriſhing to poſterity.

It is always too ſoon when a people, who have attained the meridian of their glory, forget thoſe virtuous arts by which they were exalted into importance, but for us, who have not yet half way reached our noon; nay, whoſe ſun is but juſt riſing over the mountains, and that with clouded aſpect; I ſay for us to relax one jot of primitive virtue, or to loiter in the morning of our day, what ſluggards ſhould we be deemed?

Let it not offend you then when called to look back to the rock from whence you were hewn, and the pit from whence you were digged. Obſerve the ſteps by which your anceſtors roſe into conſideration, and you ſhall ſcarce find one of all the number that ever attained eminence but by induſtry in ſome ſettled calling.

On your firſt entrance upon life it ſhould therefore be your buſineſs to make a pauſe, a ſolemn pauſe at its portal, and to conſider that your ſuperior opportunities of knowledge require ſuperior exertions of virtue. When ſet looſe from the reins of diſcipline, you will be ready to look abroad on the world with conſcious rapture, and the moſt buoyant hopes. The fullneſs of blood, and ſtrength of paſſion, will be apt to bear down that ſober reaſon and cool reflection which are your beſt guides. At every glance, Elyſian ſcenes and Fairy proſpects will riſe before you, ſeemly ſo variegated with pleaſure, that the choice will perplex you!

But be perſuaded that the pleaſures thus to be derived, from purſuing phantom after phantom, expedient after expedient, to keep animal joy alive, till the palled ſenſe recoils, and refuſes the hated load, will be found at laſt a bed ſhorter than a man can ſtretch himſelf upon, and a covering narrower than he can wrap himſelf in. Such pleaſures will only ſeduce you from the path of virtue, drawing you on, through meads of unreal bliſs, to the fool's paradiſe; a deceitful region, where ſnakes lurk under the graſs!

" And, 'mid the roſes, fierce repentance rears
" Her horrid creſt.----"

But true pleaſure is to exert the firſt efforts of your reaſon, in conſidering what you are, whence you came, whither you are going, what is given you to do, and how you are prepared to act your part worthily! It is to come forth on the human ſtage, in the ſight of mortal and immortal powers, all energy and action; rejoicing to fill the ſphere aſſigned you with diligence and dignity.

Thus animated, thus panting after virtue and excellence, ſhould your country call; ſhould you perceive the *corruptors* or *corrupted* ſtealing upon the unguarded hour of *liberty*, and undermining the civil or religious principles of your country; *then* will a holy jealouſy ſeize your whole frame! You will be all eye, and ear, and heart, and voice, and hand, in a cauſe ſo glorious! You will let the world know that liberty is your unconquerable delight, and that you are ſworn foes to every ſpecies of bondage, either of body or mind!

In this work your utmoſt efforts, the ſacrifice of every private advantage, will leave no ſting behind, but yield matter of eternal exultation! For certainly if there be any thing in this world, ſuited the native greatneſs of the human mind, and worthy of contention, it muſt be to aſſert the cauſe of truth and virtue; to ſupport the fundamental rights of mankind, and to ſtrive for the conſtitution of your country, and a government of *laws* freely conſented to by yourſelves!

While ſuch objects are in view, dangers will not daunt a good man. But where the voice of public virtue and public liberty calls, thither will he follow, whether to life or to death! With a manly and intrepid ſpirit, with a fervent and enlightened zeal, he will perſevere to the laſt, even although his country ſhould be blind to his virtue, knowing it often happens that

" The ſuns of glory pleaſe not till they ſet."

Theſe, gentlemen, are the leſſons which you, and thoſe that have gone before you, have, for many years, received here. Could I now entertain a ſentiment repugnant to them, I ſhould deem myſelf unworthy to ſtand in this place. And ſo long as ſuch ſentiments are propagated in this ſeminary, I truſt it will continue to enjoy the countenance of good men; as I am ſure it will enjoy your countenance on this account, as well as from the remembrance of paſt favours.

Sure I am too, that it was as a ſeminary calculated for the advancement of thoſe ſacred principles that I recommended * it to the encouragement of good and benevolent men in the parent country. And the munificence of their benefactions, on that occaſion, led me fondly to believe, that the propagation of thoſe principles, in the remoteſt parts of the empire, was their ardent wiſh. The remembrance of that kindneſs cannot eaſily be torn from a grateful heart; and it is with reluctance we lift np our voice with thoſe that complain.

O Britain! Shall it ever be ſaid that the laurels which have ſo long bloomed around thy brow ſhall be withered by a policy that would degrade beneath the rank of freemen, *millions* ſprung from your own loins, and inheriting your own ſpirit, from the time that your ſpirit exalted you above the ſurrounding nations? Can honour, virtue, public ſafety, dignity of ſentiment, any laudable or liberal principle ever dictate this? Rome, in all her glory, was never called to ſuch an illuſtrious work as now lies before you! To enlarge the ſphere of *proteſtantiſm*, to encreaſe the number of free ſtates and communities; to propagate the arts of peace and civilization; to bind together all the members of a great empire in one golden cord of mutual love and mutual benefits; and in ſhort, to bid other *Britons* riſe, in other climes, to the remoteſt verge of the habitable world!

Theſe are the true ways of advancing and ſupporting power; and would to God that all who are cloathed with it would conſider it as given only for theſe divine purpoſes, ere the irrevocable decree of deſtruction ſhall go finally forth.

* *The language of the* royal brief *for a national collection, and of the addreſs to the people of England, which accompanied it, was as follow:* "*The kind providence of God ſeems to have great things in view at this time, by calling the* Britiſh *nation to the poſſeſſion of the moſt important part of* America; *and the greateſt of all the glories that can accrue to this kingdom from a dominion ſo widely extended will be, to make uſe of the opportunities thereby given her for the advancement of divine knowledge, and to be found a choſen inſtrument, in theſe latter days, for calling new, and heretofore unexplored countries, to the enjoyment of every thing that can exalt humanity, at a time when ſo many of the old have fallen back to their original barbarity. Should we once become indifferent in this reſpect, and begin to conſider our waſt* American *ſettlements as given to us merely for advancing our ſecular intereſts, and not for encreaſing the number of proteſtants and freemen, we may have reaſon to fear that Providence would leave us to ourſelves, and raiſe up worthier inſtruments for accompliſhing its own eternal purpoſes of love towards thoſe ſo long benighted regions.*"

The firſt BOOK *of the* AMERICAN CHRONICLES *of the* TIMES.

CHAPTER VI.

WHEN the king ſhall ſit upon the throne of his kingdom, then ſhall he regard the law as it is written in the book, and it ſhall be with him, and he ſhall read therein all the days of his life.

That he may learn to fear the Lord his God, and to keep all the words of the law and the ordinances to do them.

That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not from the law, to the right hand, nor to the left, that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his ſons in the midſt of Britain forever.

Wherefore then doſt thou ſtrive againſt thy ſervants, and put heavy tax maſters over them?

Now, O king Rehoboam, did not the men of America thy ſervants dwell without fear, every man under his vine, and under his fig tree, from Terra Labradore unto the coaſt of the Georgeites, all the days of Solomon thy grandfather?

Did not the antient men, the Pittites, that ſtood before Solomon thy grandfather while he yet lived, counſel thee to be kind unto the children of America, and ſpeak loving words unto them, and pleaſe them, and they will be thy ſervants forever?

But behold, O king, thou has rejected the counſel of the old men, the Pittites, and followed that of the young men, even that of Johnny the Buteite, and that of the wicked Haman the Northite.

Who ſaid unto thee, thy leaſt part ſhall be bigger than thy grandfather's loins, make their yoke more grievous, thy grandfather corrected them with rods, but do thou, O king Rehoboam, chaſtiſe them with ſcorpions, then ſhall we trample them under our feet.

Now Johnny the Buteite and Haman the Northite cauſed Rehoboam to do evil in the ſight of the Lord.

Howbeit it made the belly of the pope to ſhake for joy, and his holineſs cracked his ſides with laughter, for they cauſed Britain to ſin, they encouraged the ſetting up groves and golden calves, in the land of the Canadians and the Quebeckites, and in the plains of Abraham, and diſhonoured the memory of the immortal Wolfe.

And Rehoboam walked no more in the ways of Solomon his grandfather, but walked in the ways of Louis king of France, and of Carolus king of Hiſpania, and made molten images for Balaam and for pope Gregory Hildebrand.

Now, O king, do we not pour out our wealth into thy lap, and into the lap of thy beloved, even the pure gold of Ophir and Portugal, and the fine ſilver of Mexico and Peru, that hath been tried ſeven times in the fire? And notwithſtanding thou and thy nobles be not content.

Do we not bring preſents of food and raiment day by day, for thee and thy houſehold, for thy wives, thy concubines, and thy little ones, neither be ye ſatisfied? Have we not covered thy face with fatneſs, and haſt thou not great collops of fat upon thy flanks?

Doſt thy hands or thy fingers work, or doſt thy head aſſiſt the cunning workman? Doſt thou not beget children like piſmires? Doſt not the beloved of thy boſom breed like a rabbit? And are not thy offſpring as numerous as the coneys among the ſtoney rocks? Thy heart be not ſatisfied.

Now, O king, what heart can deſire more? Even Solomon thy grandfather in all his glory (of theſe things) did not excel thee.

Wherefore then doſt thou lift up the ſceptre of thine indignation againſt us? Surely, O king, thou requiteſt us evil for good, for haſt thou not caſt upon us the furiouſneſs of thy wrath, anger, diſpleaſure, and trouble, and ſent evil angels and hot thunder bolts amongſt us?

Moreover, thou haſt not regarded our meſſengers nor our petitions, and haſt diſregarded our ſupplications, neither haſt thou honoured our ambaſſador. Didſt thou not take from Mordecai his poſt, and almoſt ſtone him with ſtones, as was ſaint Stephen of old, for doing that which was right in the ſight of the Lord?

And haſt thou not ſent forth a decree, that all the world ſhould be taxed for the God of the TEA CHEST?

Didſt thou not, in the days of the ſtamp act, ſhed the blood of our brethren like water on every ſide, even in the city and in the ſtreets of Boſton, ſo that it ran down the gutters thereof like unto lava from the eruption of mount Etna or Veſuvius?

Flee, flee, far away from us thou baſtard of the ſtamp act, for doth not a burnt child dread the fire?

And yet, notwithſtanding, would we not all to a man (were it the laws of our own land) rather ſooner agree voluntarily to burn our throats with a lable of hot muſh, our own country produce and manufacture, than have the noſſe of a tea pot crammed down our throats, and ſcalded with the abominable and baneful exotic, without our own conſent?

And moreover, O king, haſt thou not made a Jeſuitical decree, that our half brethren the Canadians and Quebeckites fall down and worſhip graven images? And peradventure, we and our children be commanded to fall down and worſhip them alſo.

No, we cannot perſuade ourſelves to diſturb the aſhes of our forefathers and former teachers, who were men of piety, diſintereſted virtue, and true catholic reformation principles, and whoſe doctrine make our ſouls to live. We cannot perſuade ourſelves to adopt the doctrine of paſſive obedience and non-reſiſtance, we cannot apoſtatiſe, we will not, though Belzebub himſelf ſhould be belwether to his holineſs, and ſtand at our gate with all his bald pated friars, and imps of Hell at his elbow, but firmly to a man reſolved are we to hold faſt our integrity.

For, O king, knoweſt thou not we ever had a great averſion to biſhops

How then can we admit a pope, cardinals, inquiſitors, jeſuits, confeſſors, friars dominican or franciſcan, capuchin monks, or the ſociety of congregatio de propaganda, cowls, hoods, habits, reliques, pardons, indulgences plenarie, diſpenſes, and bulla de la ſancta erugadas, and Devils with ſeven heads and ten horns?

With all their trumpery of proceſſions, ceremonious ſolemnities, te deums, ave marias, penances, incenſe, beads, thumping, holy water, and ſuch ſtuff.

No verily, we cannot abide with thoſe that hold of ſuperſtitious vanities, for our harps we will hang up on the willow trees, neither will we tune our voices to chant harmonious popiſh veſpers.

For be it known unto thee, O king Rehoboam, we well remember to have heard our mothers declare (and have we not read it in our primers) concerning John Rodgers miniſter of the goſpel, the firſt glorious martyr, who was burnt at Smithfield, two hundred years ago and upwards, in the reign of the bloody queen Mary.

Now God forbid we ſhould forſake the Lord to ſerve idolatrous Gods as doth the Canadians and Quebeckites, there ſhall no ſtrange Gods come hither, neither will we worſhip any God, ſave our own.

No ſurely, thy ſervants will all to a man ſooner die martyrs to the true faith than worſhip the God of Nitroch, neither will we be bound in chains of popery, nor fetters of ſuperſtition.

For in a conteſt and cauſe like this, we will ſmile at the flames, and ſhake hands with the faggot, and ſay unto the one thou art my ſiſter, and unto the other thou art my brother.

Now therefore we pray thee, O king, revoke theſe thy ſaid ill adviſed commandments, for they are oppreſſive to freedom and to thy ſervants conſciences.

Otherwiſe we do moſt firmly reſolve that we will have no farther dealings with thy people, and that in the ſpace of ſixty days we will not traffic with them for their TEA, their tea-cups, their ſaucers, nor their ſlop-bowls.

Neither ſhall they with us nor our people, for our iron, our tobacco, our oil, nor our cod-fiſh; that we will make no covenant with them, neither marry nor intermarry.

For what portion have we in Rehoboam, or what inheritance in the grandſon of Solomon?

And whereas thou prideſt thyſelf, our raiment will wax old, and we ſhall go naked and barefooted, knoweſt thou not, O king, the Lord our God clothed our forefathers in the wilderneſs, and their garments waxed not old, neither did their feet ſwell?

For doth not the moon give light in the abſence of the ſun, and the ſtars twinkle when the moon is hid, and the candle ſhineth when the Heavens are black? Thus, and thus, and more alſo, did the men of the congreſs write unto the king, and moreover they wrote letters unto Thomas ſirnamed the Gageite, ſaying,

Are we not labouring for peace, but when we ſpeak thereof, ye make yourſelves ready for battle.

Nevertheleſs it is thought the king will not hearken unto them, but harden his heart, like unto the heart of Pharoah, for his eyes are blinded with the peſtilential breath of the NORTH wind, ſo that he cannot ſee the evil day which is not afar off.

Then ſhall come to paſs, that which was ſpoken of old by Mordecai, the Benjamite and prophet, ſaying,

Wo unto the land whoſe king is a child, whoſe counſellors are madmen, and whoſe nobles are tyrants, that deviſe wicked council, for they ſhall be broken like potters clay.

Wo unto them that draw iniquity with cords of oppreſſion, and ſin as with cart ropes, for they ſhall be afraid of a ſhadow that paſſeth by, and the eccho of a toad ſhall be to them like thunder.

Wo unto the king whoſe nobles mouths are bridled with a golden bit, and whoſe governors and rulers perſecute the people, for his ſtrength ſhall decay, his glory tumble in the duſt, and his name ſhall be like unto an old woman's tale.

Wo unto them that decree wicked decrees, and write grievous things, for their hands ſhall be full, and they ſhall dip their pens in the gall of bitterneſs.

Wo unto the king who perſecutes his people with ſword and with famine, for in the day of deſolation the peſtilence, like a two edged ſword, ſhall ſweep away his hoſt like Pharoah's in the red ſea, or like unto a flood that ſweepeth away the piſmires in the gutter.

Wo unto the princes of Babel, for they are fools, and the counſel of the king's counſellors are become fooliſh, for the children of America ſhall mock them, and ſhall ſay, Aha! Babylon is fallen! Be wiſe now therefore, O ye kings, be learned ye that are judges of the earth, kiſs the Americans leſt they be angry and turn away from ye and curſe ye, for bleſſed are all they that ſhaketh hands with them in peace.

Now when Jedediah the prieſt had read all the words of the congreſs, and when he had made an end thereof,

He ſaid unto the people who liſtened unto him with great attention, for the words of his mouth were ſweeter than honey, and the ſound of his voice like unto a trumpet, which reached from one end of the land to the other.

Now if thou ſhalt diligently obey the voice of the congreſs, and obſerve to do all their commandments, which they have commanded thee this day, then ſhalt thou be ſet on high above all the nations of the earth.

And bleſſed ſhalt thou be in the city, and bleſſed alſo in the field.

Bleſſed ſhall be thy baſket and thy dough

Bleſſed ſhalt thou be when thou comeſt in, and bleſſed alſo when thou goeſt out.

Bleſſed be thy flocks and thine herds, for they ſhall bring forth cream in great plenteouſneſs, that thine eyes will wax fat like butter.

Bleſſed ſhall be thy ſhoes, for they ſhall be ſoft, made of velvet, and thy feet ſhall not ſwell.

Bleſſed ſhall be thy toes, for thou ſhalt have no corns.

Bleſſed ſhall be thy chimnies, for they ſhall not ſmoke, and with the beſt of fuel ſhall thy fire be repleniſhed, it ſhall burn as clear as the ſun at noon day, and thy wife ſhall hold her peace.

Bleſſed ſhall be thy plough, for thine own hands ſhall guide it, and thine oxen ſhall ſpeedily walk the furrows, and

Bleſſed ſhall he be that bleſſeth thee.

Then ſhall thine enemies that riſe againſt thee fall before thy face, they ſhall come out againſt thee one way, and ſhall flee before thee ſeven ways.

And now hearken, O ye innumerable multitude, what I ſay unto you:

Beware leſt any man ſpoil you through philoſophy, vain babling, jingling of words, ſham pretences, pompous ſpeeches, pertinacious double faced ſcribbling, or letter preſſing, and cauſe ye to ſtray from the right path.

For behold I ſay unto you many falſe prophets, C----ites and R----ites, ſhall ariſe, ſo as to deceive the very elect.

Therefore take heed leſt ye be taken in traps and ſnares, and ye become ſlaves for life, and thy children after ye, worſe than the Ethiopians, or the Iſraelites, who were compelled to make brick without ſtraw, or thoſe who are chained for life to tug at the oar.

Now behold Jedediah the prieſt came down a little way, and Phineas, the ſon of Eleazer, mounted and ſtood in his place, and he ſpake aloud and ſaid, curſed be he that confirmeth not all the words of the law of the congreſs, to obſerve them, and to do them, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhalt thou be in the city, and curſed alſo in the field, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhall be thy baſket and thy dough, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhalt thou be when thou comeſt in, and curſed alſo when thou goeſt out, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhall be thy flocks and thine herds, for they ſhall bring forth ſkim-milk in ſcarcity, and thy legs ſhall fall away, like unto a candle that is fried, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhall be thy ſhoes, for they ſhall be hard, made of the ſkin of a dromedary, and thou ſhalt be eternally roaring with the gout, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhall be thy toes, for thou ſhalt have corns by the buſhel, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed ſhall be thy chimnies, for they ſhall forever ſmoke, and with ſodden fuel rotten ſtumps and ſwamp oak, ſhall thy fire go out; it ſhall burn like the ſtar Saturn, and the tongue of thy wife ſhall make an eternal clack, more ſonorous and piercing than the tongue af Zantippe, the wife of Socrates, the mother of all ſcolds, and who kept a ſcolding ſchool at Athens, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

Curſed be he that putteth his hand to the plough and looketh back, for his oxen ſhall break their gears, and ramble through the buſhes, the briars, and the brambles, and all the people ſaid ſo be it.

And curſed ſhall be he that curſeth thee, and all the people lifted up their hands, and fell to the ground, and the whole multitude cried with a loud voice, and ſaid, like as thou haſt ſpoken, ſo will we do, and they gave their hands to one another, and anſwered and ſaid amen, amen, and amen, ſo be it.

To be continued.

LONDON, *April* 27.

PRIVATE advices from the Hague poſitively aſſure us that four Dutch veſſels ſailed from the Texel the firſt week in April, laden with arms, powder, and military ſtores. The cargoes were entered outwards for the coaſt of Africa; but there is not a perſon who knew of the aſſortment, particularly in the article of powder, that is not perfectly convinced that they are intended for the Britiſh American colonies.

Tranſactions of a very extraordinary nature, it is ſaid, have been lately diſcovered to have paſſed between certain Dutch merchants and ſome of the leading patriots in the province of New York.

Letters from Genoa ſpeak pretty confidently of the hoſtile diſpoſitions of the houſe of Bourbon, an application to that republic having been lately made by the courts of Verſailles and Madrid, for leave to recruit their navies with 2000 Genoeſe ſailors. The ſame accounts add, that orders have been lately received by the Frnch naval agent in that city, from Monſ. Bompart, the intendant of the marine at Toulon, to purchaſe two frigates of war of 24 guns each.

His Pruſſian majeſty has at length openly avowed his intention of taking all the ports of the Viſtula under his immediate direction. Though the other northern powers ſeem as yet to indicate no deſire to reſtrain him, ſuch a meaſure muſt lay a foundation for future commotion.

Yeſterday lord North made the following motion, in a committee of the whole houſe of commons, appointed to conſider of what encouragement ought to be given to the fiſheries of Great Britain and Ireland: "That a bounty of 40l. be given to the firſt 100 ſhips that arrive with a cargo of 10,000 cod-fiſh caught on the banks of Newfoundland, 20l. for the next 1000 ſhips; that a bounty of 500l. be given to the ſhip that arrives with the greateſt quantity of whale oil, 400l. for the next greateſt quantity, 300l. for the next, 200l. for the next, and 100l. for the next; that Ireland have liberty to import blubber and whale-fins, the ſame as England; that the duty on ſeal-ſkins imported into Ireland do ceaſe, and be no longer paid; that Ireland have leave to export clothing to America, for as much of the army as they ſupply and pay for; and that a bounty of 5 s. per tun be given to all flax ſeed imported into Ireland." The encouragement to be given to the linen manufactory of that kingdom is poſtponed.

Far as the ſeaſon is advanced, yet we are glad to hear that a bill will be brought in, at the inſtance of a great and amiable lady, to prohibit the wearing and uſe of clothes of foreign manufacture, for a certain time. Her ſeeing a nobleman laſt birth-day at court in a ſuit of French clothes, which coſt the enormous ſum of 600l. induced her to think that ſuch a bill as above mentioned muſt be of great ſervice to the ſubjects of England.

Letters from Grenada ſay, that the Dutch iſlands of Curacoa and Saint Euſtatia are full of European goods, ſent there with a view of carrying on a very lucrative trade with the Britiſh colonies.

April 29. On Friday laſt ſome private bills were read in the houſe of commons, and then the committee of the whole houſe ſat upon his majeſty's meſſage concerning Buckingham houſe, when lord North made the eſtimates, laid before the houſe, of the original ſum paid by his majeſty for Buckingham houſe, of the ſums ſince expended on it, and of the value of Somerſet houſe (if it was now to be ſold) amount to 94,750l. but as it would be diſreſpectful to make exact calculations with the crown, or to grant broken ſums, he grounded thereon the following motion:

That it is the opinion of this committee, that the ſum of 100,000l. be granted to his majeſty, as and for the monies expended in purchaſing Buckingham houſe, and for rendering it fit for a royal reſidence; alſo for appropriating Somerſet houſe to the purpoſe of holding and keeping certain public offices therein.

This motion was unanimouſly carried, and afterwards reported to the houſe.

May 6. Thurſday two large ſhips were taken up in the river, on government contract, to carry ſeveral mortars and field pieces, with a large quantity of warlike ſtores, for the uſe of the troops under the command of general Gage.

The ſame day ſailed from Waterford 21 ſail of ſhips for Newfoundland, being the largeſt fleet that ever ſailed from thence in that trade.

They write from Madrid, that as it is no longer to be doubted but a ſpeedy and ſolid peace will be concluded with the Emperor of Morocco, every body is much ſuprriſed that the fitting out ſhips of war ſtill goes on with great diligence. The King has taken a foreign veſſel into his ſervice, and has laid an embargo on all the tranſports. Several regiments are actually marching toward our ſeaports.

The contractors with government for gunpowder have received orders to deliver 6000 tons of that commodity into his majeſty's ſtorehouſes, 2000 tuns at Chatham, 1000 at Sheerneſs, 2000 at Portſmouth, and 1000 at Torbay.

Yeſterday general Lockhart took leave of his majeſty, and to-morrow is to ſet out for America.

All Engliſh ſhips of war are to be prohibited for the future from touching on the Spaniſh coaſt, without leave.

A Daniſh veſſel lately ſailed from Hamburg to explore a new colony, lately diſcovered on the ſouthern coaſt of Greenland. A Daniſh merchant, who lived nine years in Greenland, is gone as interpreter.

A few days ago died, in the upper part of the barony of Liney, in the county of Sligo, Daniel Mulleery, in the 127 year of his age. He fought at Boyne and Aghrim, and had been wounded in both engagements.

Yeſterday the houſe of commons agreed to the report of the reſolution of Wedneſday on ways and means, and on the lottery;

Alſo that 191,552l. out of the ſinking fund, be applied towards the ſupply; that 15,000l. be reſerved for maintaining the forces in the plantations in America; and that the money ariſing from the duties on gum ſenega and gum arabic, be applied towards the ſupply.

We hear that three of the regiments latlely embarked to America had orders to proceed to Philadelphia, that they might be there at the time the grand congreſs hold their ſecond meeting, in order to *protect* the congreſs, and preſerve the peace and order of that city at ſuch an important period.

It is ſaid that upwards of 60, 000l. ſterling has been remitted from the treaſury in England to be diſtributed among the friends of government.

Authentic letters from Spain make mention of a powerful fleet, which waits only the orders of the court to put to ſea; but it is not known if its deſtination is againſt the Emperor of Morocco, or if it has a more concealed private object, the latter of which is univerſally believed. Theſe letters add, that a ſquadron of ſix Dutch men of war was arrived at Cadiz, deſigned as a fleet of obſervation in the Mediterranean.

It is ſaid that orders are given for a fleet of men of war, which are rendezvous at Spithead, to be in readineſs to ſail whenever they may be wanted.

NEW YORK, *June* 15.

A LETTER from the Cove of Cork, dated May 1, 1775, ſays: "Laſt Thurſday 25 ſail of tranſports, with 3 regiments of foot, and one of light horſe, ſailed for Boſton. There are here 16 tranſports for the ſame purpoſe."

We have various accounts in town reſpecting the deſtination of the 22d, 40th, 44th, and 55th regiments, being the ſecond embarkation from Cork. Some letters pronounce it for *New York*, ſome for *Boſton*, and others for *America*. Captain Thomſon, who brings the account, ſays, "that the officers of the ſeveral corps then in Cork told him they were for this city, and that they would ſoon follow the firſt embarkation, which has ſailed for Boſton."

We hear that on Monday laſt the Connecticut forces in the neighbourhood of Greenwich were reviewed by general Wooſter. They are an exceeding fine body of men, and performed their exerciſe and evolutions with ſpirit and exactneſs, much to the ſatisfaction of their officers, a great number of gentlemen and ladies, and a prodigious concourſe of the inhabitants from that province, as well as from New York.

On Tueſday arrived the ſhip Mary and Suſanna, captain Thomſon, in five weeks and three days from Cork, in Ireland. Captain Thomſon reports, that when he left Cork, the 5th of May, ſeveral tranſports lay there, having on board three regiments of ſoldiers; that another regiment, at the ſame place, were preparing to embark, and that the four were immediately to ſail for New York, where they may every day be expected.

Yeſterday one M'Donald, who, it is ſaid, had been inliſting men to ſerve under general Gage, againſt this country, was taken into cuſtody, and conducted by a party of city grenadiers before the provincial congreſs, then ſitting, where he was examined, and returned in cuſtody. We hear ſome important diſcoveries were made.

Tueſday the ſixth inſtant there was an exchange of priſoners at Cambridge between the provincials and regulars, which was managed by general Putman on the one part, and major Moncrief on the other.

We hear that markets are very high among the windward iſlands, and that the Spaniards have purchaſed all the proviſions that could be brought at Saint Euſtatia.

MR. PINKNEY,

Inſert the following in your uſeful gazette. The facts, however diſguſting to ſome great men, deſerve a place in your paper, particularly as it affords a ſeaſonable opportunity to ſhew the ſentiments of my countrymen, reſpecting the noble character of lady DUNMORE.

TO LADY DUNMORE.

AMIABLE COUNTESS!

YOUR illuſtrious character fills the breaſt of Virginia with love and admiration. Wonder not, then, that your virtue, charity, and humanity, demand the public applauſe of an honeſt planter; a native of this once happy clime, who early imbibed ſentiments of worth, ſo highly becoming the perſon who wiſhes for intrinſic merit. To you I freely impart. My fortune is ſmall, *my ſervants few and good.* I have a tender, agreeable wife, and enjoy all the ſweets that flow from virtuous cordiality. Your merit deſerves a better fate. Virginia feels the warmeſt ſympathy when ſhe reflects that a perſon of your delicate ſenſibility, through the ungenerous treatment of a great lord, muſt feel a load of trouble, too ponderous not to deſtroy your domeſtic felicity. Permit me, with real concern, to lament your departure from this government. The poor will loſe thy well-timed favours; the rich, your agreeable and inſtructive converſation, replete with native innocence. Had your lord poſſeſſed half the engaging qualities that embelliſh your mind, and render the poſſeſſor an object of univerſal approbation, he would have been the idol of a brave and free people, and not drawn upon himſelf their deteſtation. We, who are cultivators of the ſoil, form many conjectures as to his lordſhip's change of diſpoſition. Some, who are thought the moſt ſenſible and judicious, attribute the late violent meaſures to the councils of an artful, inſinuating man, who entwines himſelf around his lordſhip's boſom, and with an eagle's eye watches his ruffled breaſt, and blows the flame that an undeſigning perſon, who wiſhes for a reconciliation, ought ſtudiouſly to ſuppreſs

That Minden hero now thirſts for the ſons of freedom's blood, and ſullies the laurels that he bravely won. This is the man, my amiable lady, to whom his lordſhip has extended every mark of affection, and liberally ſupported; a foe to religion and virtue, who precipitated his lordſhip into meaſures unconſtitutional, and deſtructive to our deareſt rights and liberties.

Miſrepreſentations have drawn the ſword againſt the boſom of Britiſh America; her Halcyon days are now no more; joy and tranquility are fled, and refuſe to ſhed their diffuſive bleſſings through Virginia's fertile ſoil. O VIRGINIA, thou ſeat of loyalty, that had the thanks of kings! At thy fair lap behold the thundering cannon and deſtructive ſword. Thy gracious ſovereign diſdains thee now. Bute and Mansfield are thy inveterate foes. O noble counteſs! ſnatch Virginia from impending ruin. Tell Bute and Mansfield Virginia is thy friend, and hopes for liberty and peace, but diſdains the rude chains of rugged ſlavery!

A PLANTER.

WILLIAMSBURG.

THIS week the right honourable the COUNTESS of DUNMORE ſailed for England this amiable lady's depaurtue ſeems to give the utmoſt concern to every Virginian.

We have received papers of very late dates from the northward; by which we find that nothing material, ſince our laſt, has tranſpired in that quarter.

AT a meeting of the VOLUNTEER COMPANY of LANCASTER county on Friday, June 9, 1775,

Reſolved, that every member of this company do return thanks to the worthy captain Patrick Henry and the volunteer company of Hanover, for their ſpirited conduct on a late expedition, and they are determined to protect him from any inſult that may be offered him, on that account, at the riſk of life and fortune.

Reſolved, that we are determined to defend our worthy ſpeaker, and the reſt of our worthy delegates, who have ſo nobly exerted themſelves in the cauſe of America, and all other friends to American liberty, whom the abandoned tools of adminiſtration may dare to attack.

Reſoved, that notice be given to the volunteer company of the city of Williamſburg that this company bind themſelves by the ſacred ties of honour and love for their country to join them on the ſmalleſt warning, and march to any part of the country in defence of liberty, and that they concur with them in opinion that landing any foreign forces at this time in this country will be a dangerous attack on the liberties of the ſame; and therefore if any ſuch ſhould be landed, they are determined, with the aſſiſtance of their countrymen, immediately to oppoſe them.

Reſolved, that a copy of the aforeſaid reſolutions be tranſmitted to Mr. John Pinkney, and that he be deſired to print the ſame in his gazette as ſoon as convenient.

RAN away from *York* town, on *Sunday* morning, an indented ſervant man, with a remarkable long head, about 5 feet 6 inches high, ſlender made about the arms and body, and was born in *Dublin*; had on a brown mixed cloth coat, nankeen breeches, and ſtriped waiſtcoat, with ſhort dark hair. He came in by the name of *John O'Brian*, but his right name is *James Brenon*. He is by trade a tailor, and a very good workman, can write very well, and I imagine he will forge a paſs, but do not think he will go by either of his names. Whoever will take him up, and contrive him to me, or ſecure him, ſo as I get him again, ſhall have FIVE POUNDS reward. WILLIAM DAVIS.

TAKEN up, in *Goochland*, 14 hogs: Two of them are old ſows, which are ſpotted black and white, the one marked with a crop in the right ear, and the other ſow, as well as twelve ſhoats, are not marked. Poſted, and appraiſed to 4l. 6s. 6d.

GEORGE UNDERWOOD.

TAKEN up, in *Bedford*, a bay mare, with a ſmall ſtar, branded on the near ſhoulder S, and is about 4 feet high. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3l.

JOHN TRIGGIN.

OSBORNE's, *June* 6, 1775.

STRAYED from the ſubſcriber, about the 20th of *February* laſt, a dark bay horſe, 4 feet 7 inches high, 6 years old, branded on the near ſhoulder I, his mane cut on the near ſide, with a bob tail, though both near grown out; he is lame in the ſhoulder, his flanks are of a lighter colour than his body, with thick thighs, trots hard and faſt, and has remarkable good courage. He was bred on *Broad* river, in *North Carolina*, where he will probably go, if not taken up; but I have reaſon to believe he was ſtopped by *Thomas Frith*, of *Cheſterfield*, and by him ſwapped away with one *Crowder*, of *Dinwiddie*. Whoever takes up the ſaid horſe, and will bring him home, ſhall receive THIRTY SHILLINGS, but if they can make it appear he was traded, as I ſuſpect, I will give THREE POUNDS reward. 2 PETERFIELD TRENT.

POETS CORNER.

FROM A LONDON PAPER.

The SAILOR's ADDRESS.

COME liften, my cocks, to a brother and friend,
One and all, to my ſong, gallant ſailors, attend,
Sons of FREEDOM ourſelves, let's be juſt as we're brave,
Nor AMERICA'S FREEDOM attempt to enſlave.
Firm as oak are our hearts where true glory depends,
Steady, boys, ſteady,
We'll always be ready
To fight all our foes, not to murder our friends.

True glory can ne'er in this quarrel be won;
If NEW ENGLAND we conquer OLD ENGLAND'S undone;
On our brethren we then will refuſe to fix chains,
For the blood of GREAT BRITAIN flows warm in their veins.
Firm as oak, &c.

Shall courtiers fine ſpeeches prevail to divide
Our affection from thoſe who have fought by our ſide?
And who often have join'd us to ſink in the main
The proud boaſting navies of *France* and of *Spain?*
Firm as oak, &c.

Near relations of ſome who at court now do thrive
The *Pretender* did join in the year forty five,
And many in favour, diſguiſ'd with foul arts,
While they roar out for *George* are for *James* in their hearts.
Firm as oak, &c.

Of ſuch men as theſe let us ſcorn to be tools,
Dirty work to perform-----do they take us for fools?
Brave ſailors are wiſer than thus to be bamm'd,
Let them turn out themſelves, lads, and fight and be d----d.
Firm as oak, &c.

To the ground may diſputes with our COLONIES fall,
And *George* long in ſplendour reign king of us all;
And may thoſe who wou'd ſet the two LANDS by the ears
Be put in the bilboes, and brought to the jears.
Firm as oak, &c.

THE ſubſcriber being very deſirous of getting out of debt, without any dependence on his ungrateful debtors, propoſes to ſell

THE PLEASANT AND HEALTHY SEAT OF

HUNTINGTON,

near *Appamattox* river, in the lower end of *Buckingham*, with 1500 or 2000 acres of good land, which produces fine tobacco, hemp, wheat, &c. The houſes are new, and the beſt I have ſeen in the county. A larger and better garden, I believe is not in the colony, and on the land are ſeveral hundred fruit trees, of the beſt kinds; many of which were brought by water, to *Richmond* town, above 80 miles. On this tract is a large proportion of exceeding fine meadow land, with a fine fiſh-pond within 300 yards of the dwellinghouſe, ſtored with various kinds of fine fiſh, ſufficient for the uſe of a family the year round. In this neighbourhood is plenty of excellent veniſon; the air is ſo pure that I never knew an inſtance of any perſon having the ague and fever at *Huntington*. I have travelled through the moſt parts of *Virginia*, and have not ſeen any part that I would ſo ſoon live at as in this neighbourhood. If I ſell this place, I ſhall live on part of the tract of land that has been advertiſed for ſome time paſt. I make no doubt but *Appamattox* river will be ſoon cleared, and then wheat will be carried as far as colonel *Baniſter's* mill, by *Peterſburg*, for 4d. or 5d. per buſhel. At this place I made 100 gallons of wine in 1772, and laſt year, if it had not been for the froſt, I could have made 5 or 600 gallons, which quantity I expect to make this year. *Huntington* would be a pleaſant and ſafe place for a gentleman to retreat to, in the horrors of a civil war, or in the ſickly months, which are in many parts of the lowlands.

"What is honour, grandeur, wealth?
"All fleeting; nothing's without health."

I hope any gentleman inclinable to purchaſe will viſit the premiſes this ſummer. I will alſo ſell the tract of rich land, which I adverti ſed in Albemarle for ſome time, very cheap; that is, for half its value. ANTHONY WINSTON.

On Monday *the 3d of* July *will be expoſed to* SALE, *if fair, if not the next fair day, at* Lamb's *creek, in* King George *county,*

A LARGE quantity of genteel PLATE, and all kinds of elegant HOUSHOLD FURNITURE, belonging to the eſtate of colonel *John Champe*, deceaſed. Twelve months credit will be allowed the purchaſers on giving bond and approved ſecurity, the bonds, if not punctually paid, to carry intereſt from the date.
2* WILLIAM CHAMPE, executor.

SAMUEL BLEWS,
FROM BIRMINGHAM,

At his SHOP, *in* CHURCH *ſtreet*, NORFOLK,

MAKES and ſells all ſorts of locks, hinges, large preſs ſcrews for clothiers, &c. He has lately engaged able tradeſmen from *London*, whom he employs in finiſhing chapes and tongues for buckles, in the moſt elegant, faſhionable, and compleat manner. In general, he performs every thing belonging to the whiteſmith's buſineſs. The public may be aſſured that what the ſubſcriber undertakes he will be punctual in executing, and ſtudious to give ſatisfaction, and they may depend on being reaſonably charged.

*** He makes ſtrong locks for priſons or ſtores, that cannot be picked, from four dollars to five pounds; alſo marking irons, of any ſize or dimenſion, for brandiſhing of caſks, &c. S. B.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Auguſta* county, a ſervant man, named JAMES DUFF, about 5 feet 9 inches high, a thick, ſturdy fellow, of a dull complexion, and down look, pitted with the ſmallpox, has dark coloured hair, cut pretty ſhort behind, and trimmed before. He had on, and took with him, a light blue coat, and great coat of the ſame, a pair of brown cloth breeches, a new furr hat, two pair of ſhoes, one fine, the other coarſe, a pair of plain plated buckles, ſeveral fine ſhirts, and thread and blue worſted ſtockings. He has a little of the brogue on his tongue. Whoever takes up the ſaid ſervant, and ſecures him, that his maſter by any means can get him, ſhall have THREE POUNDS reward, beſides reaſonable charges paid. 2* JOHN TRIMBLE.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Pittſylvania*, the 10th of *April* laſt, two convict ſervant men: WILLIAM WILMORE is an *Engliſhman*, a weaver by trade, a ſhort, well made man, of a freſh complexion, has ſhort black hair, inclinable to curl, is given much to flattery and laughter, and has loſt one thumb. He had on a reddiſh turned cloth jacket, and a pair of nankeen breeches. The other is an *Iriſhman*, with black hair and large black beard, is a ſhort fellow, remarkably thick in his ſhape, and is a ſailor. He had on a white plains jacket, and a pair of black knit breeches. Whoever ſhall take up the ſaid ſervants, and contrive ſo that the owner may get them again, ſhall receive TEN POUNDS reward.
3* JOHN MARR.

RUN away from *Edenton*, in *North Carolina*, on the 27th of *April* laſt, a negro wench, named ROAD, about 28 years of age. She was born in *New England*, and ſpeaks in that dialect, has remarkable thick lips, wears her hair combed over a large roll, and affects gaiety in dreſs. She had on, and took with her, a homeſpun ſtriped jacket, a red quilted petticoat, a black ſilk hat, a pair of leather ſhoes, with wooden heals, a chintz gown, and a black cloak. She is ſuppoſed to have a forged paſs, and may endeavour to paſs as a free woman, and change her clothes and name. Whoever will take up the ſaid wench, and return her to the ſubſcriber, or to *Joſeph Blunt*, eſquire, of *Edenton*, or to *Keder Merchant*, eſquire, of *Currituck*, or ſecure her in any of his majeſty's gaols, and notify the owner, ſhall receive FORTY SHILLINGS reward, and reaſonable charges, by 2* JOSIAH HALL.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

RAN away from the ſubſcriber, about ſix days before *Chriſtmas*, a negro man, named EMMANUEL, formerly the property of colonel *Philip Rootes*, of a yelloviſh complexion, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, with a ſcar on his left hand, where the thumb joins, and has an effeminate voice. I am afraid he has got on board ſome veſſel. Any perſon who will take up the ſaid fellow, and deliver him to me, at *Charlottſville* town, in *Albemarle*, or to Mr. *Peter Clarkſon*, at *Carr's Lowgrounds*, ſhall receive the above reward, beſides what the law allows. 3* THOMAS CARR.

A MAN, with a ſmall family, would gladly be employed in any gentleman's ſervice, either in *Virginia* or *Carolina*, as a head overſeer or ſteward, and will come well recommended. He underſtands ſurveying, and may be employed in that buſineſs. Apply to the printer, or the honourable *John Tayloe*, eſquire, in *Richmond*. He will write to any gentleman as ſoon as a letter comes to hand.

STRAYED from my plantation, near *Dumfries*, on *Friday* the 12th of *May* laſt, a bright bay mare, near 14 hands high, with a long bob tail, and very thick mane, is a natural pacer, and gallops very aukwardly. She is marked, if I remember right, with a W on the left ſhoulder, had a yoke on, and was ſeen about ten days ago near *Bull Run* church, in *Fauquier* county. Whoever will bring her to the ſubſcriber, in *Dumfries*, ſhall have FIFTY SHILLINGS reward. 3 GEORGE GRAHAM.

TAKEN up, in *Orange*, a bay mare, 4 feet 7 inches high, branded on the near ſhoulder I K, has a bell on, which is marked . . . . . and buckled with a large buckle; ſhe has ſome white hairs in her forehead and on her ſhoulder, occaſioned by a collar, and a ſprig tail and hanging mane. Poſted, and appraiſed, with the bell, to 10l.
§ JAMES COURSEY.

TAKEN up, in *Orange*, a pied ſteer, marked with a ſwallow fork in the left, and a crop in the right ear. Poſted, and appraiſed to 2l.
§ ISAAC GEORGE.

TAKEN up, in *Orange*, a bay horſe, about 10 years old, has a ſprig tail and hanging mane, about 4 feet 4 inches high, branded on the near buttock D, and on the top of his head there is a ſcar, which appears as if he had had the pole evil. Poſted, and appraiſed to 7l.
§ JAMES COURSEY.

TAKEN up, in *Albemarle*, on *Hardware* river, an iron gray horſe, with ſome ſaddle ſpots, about 4 feet 8 or 9 inches high, branded on the off buttock with WAR in a piece, and is ſhod before. Poſted, and appraiſed to 15l.
* CHARLES HUDSON.

TAKEN up, in *Bedford*, a bay horſe, about 4 feet 6 inches high, with ſome ſaddle ſpots, and about 11 years old, has on a ſmall bell, and branded on the near buttock H B. Poſted, and appraiſed to 6l.
* AQUILLA GILBERT.

TAKEN up, in *Goochland*, a white pied ſteer; his face almoſt white, the ends of his horns ſawed off, and is marked with a crop and ſlit in the right ear, and a ſlit in the left, and appears to be about 5 years old. Poſted, and appraiſed to 2l. 5s.
* JOHN WOODWARD.

TAKEN up, in *Buckingham*, a ſleabitten gray horſe, about 9 years old, 5 feet 10 inches high, in tolerable good order, and branded on the near buttock *d*, as near as I can make it out. He paces a running gait, and trots. Poſted, and appraiſed to 18l.
* CHARLES MAXEY.

TAKEN up, in *Goochland*, a bright bay horſe, about 10 or 12 years old, 4 feet 4 or 5 inches high, branded on the ſhoulder A I N, and on the buttock I, with a ſmall ſtar in his forehead, one of his feet white to the footlock, and paces a ſlow gait. Poſted, and appraiſed to 7l.
* JOHN HOPKINS.

TAKEN up, in *Orange*, a brindle cow, marked with a crop in each ear, and an underkeel in the left. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3l.
* ISAAC GEORGE.

TAKEN up, in *Albemarle*, a cheſnut ſorrel horſe, about 9 or 10 years old, 4 feet 6 inches high, has a ſore back, and ſeveral ſaddle ſpots, but no brand perceivable. Poſted, and appraiſed to 6l. 10s.
* THOMAS CARR.

STRAYED or ſtolen from the ſubſcriber, in *Fredericksburg*, the 13th of *January* laſt, a ſorrel horſe, about 13 hands high, 5 or 6 years old, has a hanging mane, and a ſwitch tail, which is very thick, and lays on both ſides the neck, a blaze on his forehead, with whitiſh hind feet, and branded on the near ſhoulder IC. Whoever brings me the ſaid horſe ſhall have TEN SHILLINGS reward.
1* ROBERT SCOT.

WEST POINT, *June* 2, 1775.

STRAYED from the ſubſcriber, about two months ago, two HORSES, one of them a dark bay, with a roached mane and bob tail, has a ſtar in his forehead, and about fourteen hands high, his brand, if any, unknown. The other is a bright bay, with a buſhy mane and broom tail. Whoever takes up the ſaid horſes and gives notice ſo that they may be had ſhall have FIVE POUNDS reward, or fifty ſhillings for either. THOMAS MOORE.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Spotſylvania*, the 20th of *May*, a convict ſervant man, named GEORGE NEWTON, a farmer, born in *Yorkſhire*, and imported in the *Juſtitia* this ſpring, a ſtout man, about 6 feet high, much freckled, has a very red beard, and walks clumſily. I am informed he has a ſcar on the fore part of his head, and ſome ſcars on his left arm, which he ſays was occaſioned by ſhot. He has been in ſome office about the cuſtomhouſe in *London*. He took with him two oznabrig ſhirts, almoſt new, one of them died of a purple colour, a pair of oznabrig trowſers, rather too ſmall for him, a felt hat, bound, a pair of old country ſhoes, a jacket without ſleeves, much worn, a *Dutch* blanket, a white linen ſhirt, a ſtock, and braſs ſtock buckle, a pair of new worſted hoſe, mixed brown and white, and one pair of white yarn ſtockings. I ſuſpect he has other clothes with him. He alſo took away with him a negro man, named GEORGE, about 5 feet 3 inches high, well made, and underſtands working in ſtone and wood; his fore teeth in the upper jaw is a good deal worn; the finger next to his little finger, on his left hand, is ſtiff in the firſt joint, occaſioned by a cut, and when the others are ſhut, ſtands out; he has loſt part of a toe, and, as well as I remember, it is the toe next his great toe, and on the left foot. He took with him ſome oznabrig ſhirts, a kerſey jacket, with yellow metal buttons, a pair of white yarn ſtockings, a blanket, a pair of country made ſhoes, with ſome other clothes. They ſay they intend getting on board ſome ſhip, but I ſuſpect they will endeavour getting on board the man of war. All maſters of veſſels, or other perſons, are forewarned from harbouring or taking them on board. I will give FIVE POUNDS reward for both, or THREE POUNDS for *Newton*, and FORTY SHILLINGS for *George*, beſides what the law allows, if conveyed to me, near *Fredericksburg*, or FORTY SHILLINGS each if ſecured in any gaol, ſo that I get them again. If they are not well ſecured they will make their eſcapes, being both cunning, artful fellows. JAMES TUTT.

N. B. I ſuſpect a negro man, named *Tim*, belonging to the honourable *John Tayloe*, is gone off with them.

To be SOLD *on the premiſes, on the* 10th *day of* Auguſt *next,*

THE PLANTATION of the late *Michael Reagan*, in *Fairfax* county, containing about 700 acres, lying on *Hunting Creek Run*, within 5 miles of *Alexandria*. The land is well calculated for tobacco, wheat, &c. A quantity of meadow may eaſily be made, having the advantage of a ſtream running through it, and a good mill ſeat, good orchards, &c. One half the purchaſe money to be paid on the ſale, the remainder in twelve months, giving ſecurity.
tdſ NICHOLAS REAGAN, executor.

TO BE SOLD, IN AMHERST COUNTY,

ABOUT 4000 acres of exceeding good tobacco LAND, being part of a larger tract formerly advertiſed, together with a very valuable GRIST MILL, upon *Buffalo* river. This land is equal to any that has yet been ſold of the tract. The time of payment will be made agreeable to purchaſers. Mr. *Gabriel Penn*, who lives near the land, is authorized to bargain for it, and will ſhew it to any perſons inclinable to purchaſe.
tf CARTER BRAXTON.

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, in *Loudoun*, on the 14th of *May*, two *Iriſh* convict ſervants, viz. FRANCIS IRWIN, a ſtout fellow, about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, with a ſandy complexion, ſhort curled hair, thin viſage, and grey eyes; he has two large upper teeth before, a remarkable hoarſe voice, and is by trade a blackſmith. MICHAEL LANE, lately from *Ireland*, is about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, with a dark complexion, ſhort dark hair, and black eyes. They had on, and took with them, the following articles: Two check, two oznabrig, and ſome white ſhirts, two pair of oznabrig trowſers, one black and one red and white ſilk handkerchiefs, a fine hat, bound with velvet, with a band of the ſame, a coarſe ditto, bound with ferret, one pair of gray thread and ſome worſted ſtockings, a pair of ſtitched pumps, with long quarters, one pair of new and one of old ſhoes, a ſailor's blue jacket, and one knit ditto, a light coloured cloth coat, patched at the elbows, a half worn janes ditto, lined with brown holland, a gray ſurtout, and one brown ditto, with a velvet cape, a pair of leather breeches, two motly coloured rugs, one blanket, and a ſmooth bored gun. They alſo took with them two mares: One of them is a bright bay, about 15 hands high, ſhod all round, paces, trots, and gallops, but is moſt accuſtomed to trotting, has two remarkable ſores, one on each ſide of her back, near the hind part of the ſaddle. The other mare is of a dark brown, about 13 hands high, ſhod before, and her mane hangs to the left ſide. Whoever ſecures them in any gaol, ſo that I may get them again, ſhall receive TWENTY DOLLARS for each, and TEN DOLLARS for the mares, beſides reaſonable charges, if brought home.

*** All owners of ferries are requeſted to take particular notice, as it is expected they will make towards *New York* or *Boſton*.
SAMUEL CANBY.

To be RENTED *for any term of years, not exceeding fourteen, and entered upon next* November,

THE FERRY and HOUSES oppoſite to *Alexandria*, either with or without an adjoining, improved plantation, the land where of is in general good, with a large quantity of meadow ground. This being a place much frequented, and likely to become daily more ſo, with the daily riſing importance of *Alexandria*, renders it peculiarly fit for either a tavern or a place of trade, or both. The buildings now upon it, excepting a new houſe intended for a kitchen, are but indifferent; it is therefore propoſed that the tenant ſhall erect ſuch as he may judge neceſſary; for which a proper abatement will be made in the rent. For terms apply to *Daniel Dulany*, junior, eſquire, attorney at law in *Annapolis*, or to *John Addiſon*, eſquire, and the reverend *Jonathan Boucher*, near the premiſes. 5*

For SALE, *in* CHESTERFIELD *county,*

A TRACT of LAND, lying on *Appomattox* river, about 3 miles below *Peterſburg*, containing 307 acres, 50 of which are very valuable marſh and meadow land, the reſidue good high land, well calculated for a farm. There is on this land a good dwellinghouſe, outhouſes, barns, and all other neceſſary buildings, very fine orchards, and other valuable improvements. The ſituation is exceedingly beautiful and healthy. Alſo a tract of land, lying on the ſame river, in the lower part of *Amelia* county, containing 540 acres, 200 of which are low grounds; the whole tract equal in goodneſs to any land in the colony, the high land lies level, and produces fine crops of tobacco, wheat, and corn; it is well known by the name of *Goſe Iſland*; the buildings and other improvements are valuable, and the plantation in fine order; it will work 12 or 15 hands to advantage. Both or either of theſe tracts of land will be ſold on any time of credit not exceeding 7 years, the purchaſer giving bond with approved ſecurity, and paying intereſt from the date of the bond. tf ROBERT KENNON.

FOR SALE,

NINE hundred and forty acres of valuable land, lying on both ſides of Contrary River, in Louiſa, with three plantations thereon, two of which has ſufficient houſes for overſeers and negroes; the other is improved with all neceſſary buildings, and orchards of all kinds, fit for the reception of a gentleman, the houſes being finiſhed in the beſt manner This tract is well timbered and watered, lies within 32 miles of Frederickſburg, and 43 of Page's warehouſe; there are at leaſt 400 acres of low grounds, of the beſt ſoil, 300 of which are now to cut. The three plantations are under good fences, and in good order to work 12 or 15 hands. Robert Fleming, John Maſſey, and John Lain, are now in poſſeſſion of the plantations, who will ſhew the land to any perſon inclinable to purchaſe, and Major Thomas Johnſon will agree with them for the price. The above tract is eſteemed the moſt valuable in Louiſa for growing corn, wheat, or tobacco, and ſituated in the beſt range for ſtock of any below the great mountains. (tf 1*)

FOR SALE, AND VERY CHEAP,

A PLANTATION in good order for cropping, none of the land having been cleared above ſix years, with all neceſſary houſes, quite new, together with 1500 acres of exceeding rich land, the ſoil of which is ſo good that it will bring large tobacco for five or ſix years without dung. I have made on this plantation above three thouſand pounds of tobacco per ſhare. The place is very healthy, and has a fine range for ſtock. This land lies in the lower end of Buckingham county, near to Appomattox river, on each ſide of Great Ducker's and Mayo creeks. Tobacco has been carried above this land near to Peterſburg by water, and laſt month, in the dry weather, two canoe loads of wheat were carried near to Peterſburg, and the canoes brought back; they were loaded but a little below this land. I make no doubt but Appomattox river will be ſoon cleared, and then the expence of ſending wheat, tobacco, &c. will be trifling. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe will ſee, by the produce of the land, that it is exceeding rich. I really do not know any better high land in the colony. This tract of land is well timbered, and has excellent water on it. I do not know a better place for a merchant mill than is on Ducker's creek. People are going much on raiſing wheat in theſe parts, and a good mill would be very advantageous to the owner. Alſo another tract of land of 826 acres, in Albemarle county, I believe about ten miles from the courthouſe, joining Mr. James Harris and the quarters of Mr. John Winſton. On this land is a ſmall plantation, a good apple orchard, &c. The land is good, and my price ſo low, that I am convinced any perſon who viewed either of the above tracts of land would not heſitate to give the price I ſhall aſk. Neither of theſe tracts are under any incumbrance whatſoever. A reaſonable time of payment will be allowed.
tf ANTHONY WINSTON.